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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Gruber, *et al.*

Appl. No. 09/076,115

Filed: May 12, 1998

For: **Methods for Production and
Purification of Nucleic Acid
Molecules**

Confirmation No. 4470

Art Unit: 1637

Examiner: Tung, J.

Atty. Docket: 0942.4350001/RWE/B-C

Petition For Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(1)

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

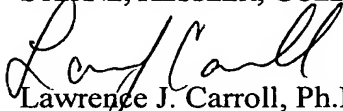
It is hereby requested that the period for replying to the outstanding Office Action be extended three (3) months from August 8, 2002 to November 8, 2002 by the filing of this Petition and fee payment.

The petition fee (37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)) is believed to be \$920.00 for a three (3) month extension for a large entity. Fee payment is provided in our accompanying Check No. 37183. However, if extensions of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 other than those provided herewith are required to prevent abandonment of the present patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.


Lawrence J. Carroll, Ph.D.
Agent for Applicants
Registration No. 40,940

10/31/2002 MAHME1 00000116 09076115

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920.00 OP

Date: October 30, 2002

1100 New York Avenue, N.W.
Suite 600
Washington, D.C. 20005-3934
(202) 371-2600

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SKGF Rev. 2/4/02 mac